

Reagan

Continued from front page

During his two-term presidency from 1980-1988, Reagan made history as America’s 40th and oldest President. On the day of his inaugural address, the last of the 52 American hostages were set free by Iran after 444 days of captivity. Reagan was responsible for 41.4 billion dollars in budget cuts, a 30 percent tax cut over three years, an increase in defense expenditures, and he vowed to not cut Social Security. His three-stage tax cut was the largest in U.S. history. Reagan also appointed the first female Supreme Court justice, ended the cold war with the dismantling of intermediate long-range ballistic missiles the Soviets had aimed at Western Europe, and was a player in the destruction of the Berlin Wall uniting Germany once again.

His efforts to strengthen the Navy after years of military cutbacks by Democrats included the designs of a 600 ship Navy with 147 new ships, 3 modernized carriers and 1,917 more aircraft. The “plank” policy established carriers as the center of carrier

battle groups. Reagan believed that forward deployed forces were the key to maintaining peace. These policies are still in place, today, as the Navy is built around the big-deck carriers and dominated by carrier aviation and nuclear submarine communities.

After his presidency, his popularity among the world community never diminished



After eight years as president, Ronald Reagan leaves the White House waving goodbye with wife Nancy at his side. Reagan is one of the most beloved presidents of this century and is credited with ending the Cold War.

despite him avoiding the spotlight. Reagan was, however, thrust back into the public eye in 1994 when he announced publicly he was afflicted with Alzheimer’s disease.

During the early stages of the disease, Reagan enjoyed jigsaw puzzles with his daughter Maureen and walking on the beach and in the park with his family. In December 1999, the former first lady told reporters that her husband was no longer capable of having a sensible conversation, adding that friends were no longer invited to

their California home because he does not recognize them.

In recent years, the Washington D.C. airport was renamed to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. Reagan was also the first president to have a naval vessel named after him, commissioned and put to sea while still alive.

His passing, June 5, 2004 at 3: 09 EST, with his wife Nancy and family members nearby, brought an international outpouring of tributes from friends and former adversaries.

President Ronald Reagan, nicknamed him “Dutch” by his father, “Rawhide” by the Secret Service and the “Great Communicator” by political allies, loved to smile and tell jokes. His manner and warm voice helped persuade people to trust and believe in him.

“Whatever else history may say about me when I’m gone, I hope it will record that I appealed to your best hopes, not your worst fears; to your confidence rather than your doubts. My dream is that you will travel the road ahead with liberty’s lamp guiding your steps and opportunity’s arm steadying your way.”—Ronald Reagan



The Great Communicator Special Edition

June 8, 2004

President Reagan Leaves Legacy to a Nation

By JO1 Lori Sawyer

Staff Writer

“He looks like a fat little Dutchman. But who knows, he might grow up to be president someday,” said John “Jack” Reagan about his newborn son Ronald Wilson Reagan. Reagan, the youngest of four children, was born to John and Nelle Reagan in a flat above a local bank in Tampico, Ill. Feb. 6, 1911.

In the 1920s, silent films were still a novelty, vaudeville troupes were rare and television was something people read about in science fiction stories. This gave the local entertainment a spotlight in the town of Dixon, where Reagan’s family lived. Reagan’s mom was a member of a star performer group in Dixon that staged readings of plays and other pieces from literature.

“I don’t remember what I said, but I will never forget the response: people laughed and applauded,” said Reagan about his first experience as a child performer. “I didn’t know it then, but when I walked off the stage that night, my life had changed.”

After graduating from Eureka College, Reagan hitchhiked to Chicago to hunt for a job as a radio announcer. He was met with rejection everywhere he went, but he believed this was be his first step in becoming an actor.

His first break was in 1932, in Davenport, Iowa, where he started to broadcast University of Iowa’s football games and Chicago Cubs baseball games. This led to



By IC1 Michael Helke

ISSN Daniel Harris, of Operations department, takes time to send his condolences in a memorial book to the Ronald Reagan Family Monday evening in the forward mess decks. The book is intended to serve as an opportunity for Ronald Reagan Sailors to convey their thoughts prayers to the family of the deceased 40th president of the United States. The book will be sent to the Ronald Reagan Library.

an opportunity for him to report during the Cubs’ summer camp in California. During the stay, he met with an agent who secured him a screen test with Warner Brothers.

Warner Brothers offered him a seven-year contract less than 48 hours after his screen test. His

first film was Love Is on the Air. The first year of his acting career he was drafted into a leadership position in the Screen Actor’s Guild. He would later become President of the guild seven times. Reagan would star in a total of 53 movies before entering politics.

Reagan’s Final Remarks to the Country ... Alzheimer’s Disease

My Fellow Americans,

I have recently been told that I am one of the millions of Americans who will be afflicted with Alzheimer’s disease. Upon learning this news, Nancy and I had to decide whether as private citizens we would keep this a private matter or whether we would make this news known in a public way.

In the past Nancy suffered from breast cancer and I had my cancer surgeries. We found through our open disclosures we were able to raise public awareness.

We are happy that as a result many more people underwent testing. They were treated in early stages and able to return to normal, healthy lives. So now, we feel it is important to share it with you.

In opening our hearts, we hope this might promote greater awareness of this condition. Perhaps it will encourage a clearer understanding of the individuals and families who are affected by it.

At the moment I feel just fine. I intend to live the remainder of the years God gives me on this earth doing the things I have always done. I will continue to share life’s journey with my beloved Nancy and my family. I plan to enjoy the great outdoors and stay in touch with my friends and supporters. Unfortunately, as Alzheimer’s disease progresses, the family often bears a heavy burden. I only wish there was some way I could spare Nancy from this painful experience.

When the time comes I am confident that with your help she will face it with faith and courage. In closing let me thank you, the American people, for giving me the great honor of allowing me to serve as your President. When the Lord calls me home, whenever that may be, I will leave with the greatest love for this country of ours and eternal optimism for its future. I now begin the journey that will lead me into the sunset of my life. I know that for America there will always be a bright new dawn ahead. Thank you, my friends. May God always bless you. -- Ronald Reagan

HIS LIFE



**Ronald Wilson Reagan
as a toddler -- 1913**

**Reagan saved 77 lives
as a lifeguard during
his seven years on the
job. A plaque was
erected in his honor
--1927**



**Reagan served
in the Army
during WWII and
was discharged
at war's end
--1944**



**Reagan took
office as
Governor of
California
Jan. 6, 1967**

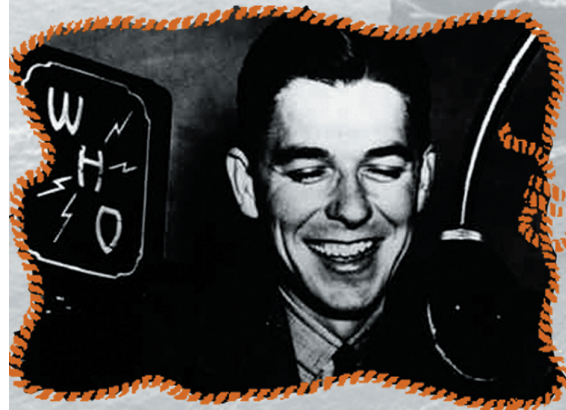


**Reagan inaugurated as
America's 40th president--1981**

**Reagan at Pointe du Hoc, France
meeting WWII U.S. Army
Ranger vets from the invasion
of Normandy --1984**



1911 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2004



**Reagan's first radio job was
announcing Iowa football
and Chicago Cubs games --1932**



**Ronald Reagan and Nancy Davis
tie the knot --1952**



**Reagan with Marlyn Monroe
during his acting days--1960**



**Reagan with Ron Jr.,
Nancy and Patti Davis
--1967**

**Reagan just before the
assassination attempt
by John Hinckley Jr
--1981**



**Reagan and General
Secretary Gorbachev
signing the
International
Nuclear Forces
(INF) treaty --1983**

